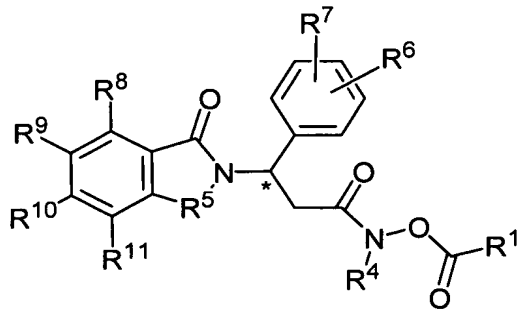
Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

(a) a compound of the formula:



or an acid addition salts thereof,

wherein

the carbon atom designated * constitutes a center of chirality,

R^4 is hydrogen or -(C=O)-R^{12};

each of R^1 and R^{12}, independently of each other, is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, phenyl, benzyl, pyridyl methyl, pyridyl, imidazoyl, imidazolyl methyl, or

$CHR^*(CH_2)_nNR^*R^0$

wherein $R^*$and R^0, independently of the other, are hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, phenyl, benzyl, pyridylmethyl, pyridyl, imidazoyl or imidazolylmethyl, and n = 0, 1, 2;

R^5 is C=O, CH_2, -CH_2-CO-, or SO_2;

each of R^6 and R^7, independently of the other, is nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, carbethoxy, carbomethoxy, carbopropoxy, acetyl, carbamoyl, acetoxy, carboxy, hydroxy, amino, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkoxy of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, cycloalkoxy of 3 to 8 carbon atoms, halo, bicycloalkyl of up to 18 carbon atoms, tricycloalkoxy of up to 18 carbon atoms, 1-

indanyloxy, 2-indanyloxy, C_4-C_8-cycloalkylidenemethyl, or C_3-C_{10}-alkylidenemethyl; and

each of R^8, R^9, R^{10}, and R^{11} independently of the others, is

(i) hydrogen, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, carbethoxy, carbomethoxy, carbopropoxy, acetyl, carbamoyl, acetoxy, carboxy, hydroxy, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, acylamino, alkyl of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, alkoxy of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, halo, or

(ii) one of R^8, R^9, R^{10}, and R^{11} is acylamino comprising a lower alkyl, and the remaining of R^8, R^9, R^{10}, and R^{11} are hydrogen, or

(iii) hydrogen if R^8 and R^9 taken together are benzo, quinoline, quinoxaline, benzimidazole, benzodioxole, 2-hydroxybenzimidazole, methylenedioxy, dialkoxy, or dialkyl, or

(iv) hydrogen if R^{10} and R^{11}, taken together are benzo, quinoline, quinoxaline, benzimidazole, benzodioxole, 2-hydroxybenzimidazole, methylenedioxy, dialkoxy, or dialkyl, or

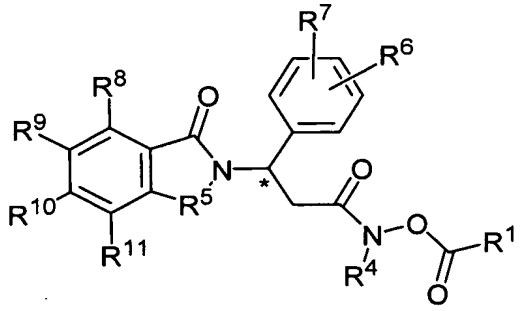
(v) hydrogen if R^9 and R^{10} taken together are benzo; and

(b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

2-4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

(a) a compound of the formula:



or an acid addition salt thereof,

in which

the carbon atom designated * constitutes a center of chirality;

R^4 is hydrogen or -(C=O)-R^{12}, where

each of R^1 and R^{12}, independently of each other, is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, phenyl, benzyl, pyridyl, pyridyl methyl, imidazolyl, imidazoylmethyl, or $CHR^*(CH_2)_nNR^*R^0$

wherein $R^*$and R^0, independently of the other, are hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, phenyl, benzyl, pyridylmethyl, pyridyl, imidazoyl or ~~imidazolylmethlyl~~ imidazolylmethyl, and n = 0, 1, 2;

R^5 is C=O or CH_2;

each of R^6 and R^7, independently of the other is alkoxy of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, cycloalkoxy of 3 to 6 carbon ~~atoms.~~ atoms; C_4-C_6-cycloalkylidenemethyl, C_2-C_{10}-alkylidenemethyl, C_6-C_{18}-bicycloalkoxy, C_6-C_{18}-tricycloalkoxy, 1-indanyloxy, or 2-indanyloxy;

each of R^8, R^9, R^{10}, and R^{11}, independently of the others, is hydrogen, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, carbethoxy, carbomethoxy, carbopropoxy, acetyl, halo, carbamoyl, acetoxy, carboxy, hydroxy, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, acylamino, alkyl of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and alkoxy of 1 to 10 carbon atoms; and

(b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

6-18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof, and wherein the composition is useful for reducing or inhibiting levels of TNFα, PDE 4 or a matrix ~~metalloproteinases~~ metalloproteinase in a mammal.

20. (Canceled).

21. (Previously presented) A method of inhibiting the levels of TNFα in a mammal which comprises administering thereto a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof.

22. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting the levels of a matrix ~~metalloproteinases~~ metalloproteinase in a mammal which comprises administering thereto a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof.

23. (Currently amended) A method of treating an inflammatory or an autoimmune disease in a mammal, which comprises administering a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof.

24. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 23 wherein the disease is arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease, aphthous ulcers, cachexia, graft versus host disease, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, psoriasis, atopic dermatitis, lupus, adult respiratory distress syndrome, or acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

25. (Currently amended) A method of treating cancer in a mammal which comprises administering thereto a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof.

26. (Currently amended) A method of reducing angiogenesis in a mammal which comprises administering thereto a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof.

27. (Previously presented) A method of inhibiting the levels of phosphodiesterases type IV in a mammal which comprises administering thereto a

pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof.

28-29. (Canceled).

30. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 5, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof, wherein the composition is useful for reducing or inhibiting the levels of TNFα, PDE 4 or a matrix metalloproteinase in a mammal.

31. (Canceled).

32. (Previously presented) A method of reducing or inhibiting the levels of TNFα in a mammal which comprises administering thereto a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof.

33. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting the levels of a matrix ~~metalloproteinases~~ metalloproteinase in a mammal which comprises administering thereto a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof.

34. (Previously presented) A method of treating an inflammatory disease or an autoimmune disease in a mammal, which comprises administering thereto a composition according to claim 5, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof.

35. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 34, wherein the disease is arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease, aphthous ulcers, cachexia, graft versus host disease, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, psoriasis, stopic dermatitis, lupus, adult respiratory distress syndrome, or acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

36. (Previously presented) A method of treating cancer in a mammal which comprises administering thereto a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5, wherein

said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof.

37. (Previously presented) A method of reducing angiogenesis in a mammal which comprises administering thereto a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof.

38. (Previously presented) A method of inhibiting the levels of phosphodiesterase type IV in a mammal which comprises administering thereto a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof.

39. (Previously presented) A method of treating dermal diseases in a mammal which comprises administering thereto a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer, a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer, or a mixture thereof.

40. (Canceled).